

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 5 1. An optical film comprising:  
a polarizing plate having a protective layer on at least one side of a  
polarizer; and  
a brightness-enhanced film laminated to the polarizing plate, wherein  
when the optical film is cut into a 25 mm × 150 mm strip-shape and the strip-  
shaped film is bent at a center of the film so that both ends in a longitudinal  
direction of the optical film approach each other and the distance between the  
10 both ends is 50 mm, the force applied to one end of the film is 0.20 N or less.
- 15 2. The optical film according to claim 1, wherein the brightness-  
enhanced film comprises a reflecting and a polarization separating function.
3. The optical film according to claim 1, wherein the brightness-  
enhanced film comprises a Granjern structured liquid crystal polymer layer  
having a circular polarization separating function and a quarter wavelength  
plate.
- 20 4. The optical film according to claim 1, wherein the brightness-  
enhanced film comprises a linear polarization separating function using  
reflection at each interface of a multilayer film.
- 25 5. The optical film according to claim 1, wherein the polarizing plate and  
the brightness-enhanced film are laminated by an adhesive layer.
6. The optical film according to claim 3, wherein the liquid crystal  
polymer layer is disposed on a protective layer made of a cellulose-based film.
7. The optical film according to claim 1, wherein the thickness of the  
protective layer of the polarizing plate and a base material of the brightness-  
enhanced film is 50  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.
8. The optical film according to claim 1, further comprising a retardation  
film and a viewing angle enlarging film laminated to at least one side of the  
optical film.

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9. A liquid crystal display comprising: a liquid crystal cell; an optical film on at least one side of the liquid crystal cell, the optical film comprising: a polarizing plate having a protective layer on at least one side of a polarizer; and

5 a brightness-enhanced film laminated to the polarizing plate, wherein when the optical film is cut into a 25 mm × 150 mm strip-shape and the strip-shaped film is bent at a center of the film so that both ends in a longitudinal direction of the optical film are allowed to approach each other and the distance between the both ends becomes 50 mm, the force applied to one end  
10 of the film is 0.20 N or less.

10. The liquid crystal display according to claim 9, wherein the brightness-enhanced film comprises a reflecting and a polarization separating function.

15 11. The liquid crystal display according to claim 9, wherein the brightness-enhanced film comprises a Granjern structured liquid crystal polymer layer having a circular polarization separating function and a quarter wavelength plate.

20 12. The liquid crystal display according to claim 9, wherein the brightness-enhanced film comprises a linear polarization separating function using reflection at each interface of a multilayer film.

25 13. The liquid crystal display according to claim 9, wherein the polarizing plate and the brightness-enhanced film are laminated by an adhesive layer.

30 14. The liquid crystal display according to claim 11, wherein the liquid crystal polymer layer is disposed on a protective layer made of a cellulose-based film.

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15. The liquid crystal display according to claim 9, wherein the thickness of the protective layer of the polarizing plate and a base material of the brightness-enhanced film is 50 μm or less.

35 16. The liquid crystal display according to claim 9, wherein a retardation film and a viewing angle enlarging film are laminated to at least one side of

the optical film.

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